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TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT BOARD
Twenty-eighth executive session
Geneva, 11–13 March 2002
Item 1 of the provisional agenda

I. PROVISIONAL AGENDA

1. Adoption of the agenda

2. Matters requiring action by the Board arising from or related to reports and activities of its subsidiary bodies:

   (a) Report of the Commission on Trade in Goods and Services, and Commodities, sixth session (4 – 8 February 2002)
   (b) Report of the Commission on Investment, Technology and Related Financial Issues, sixth session (21 – 25 January 2002)
   (c) Report of the Commission on Enterprise, Business Facilitation and Development, sixth session (18 – 21 February 2002)
   (d) Report of the Working Party on the Medium-term Plan and the Programme budget on its resumed thirty-eighth session (17-18 January 2002)

3. Follow-up to paragraph 166 of the Bangkok Plan of Action

4. Institutional, organizational, administrative and related matters:

   - Designation of non-governmental organizations for the purposes of rule 77 of the rules of procedure of the Board

5. Other business

6. Report of the Board on its twenty-eighth executive session

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II. ANNOTATIONS TO THE PROVISIONAL AGENDA

Item 1 - Adoption of the agenda

1. The provisional agenda is contained in part I above.

Item 2 - Matters requiring action by the Board arising from or related to reports and activities of its subsidiary bodies:

(a) Report of the Commission on Trade in Goods and Services, and Commodities, sixth session (4 – 8 February 2002)

2. The Commission on Trade in Goods and Services, and Commodities held its sixth session from 4 to 8 February 2002 in Geneva. The report of the session is contained in document TD/B/EX(28)/4 – TB/B/COM.1/49.

3. Under its agenda item 3, "The sustainable use of biological resources: Ways to enhance the production and export capacities of developing countries of agriculture and food products, including niche products, such as environmentally preferable products (EPPs)", the Commission engaged in a policy dialogue based on the outcome of the related expert meeting (TD/B/COM.1/41 – TD/B/COM.1/EM.15/3 and secretariat note (TD/B/COM.1/45). It adopted agreed recommendations addressed to Governments, the international community and UNCTAD (TD/B/COM.1/L.21).

4. Under its agenda item 4, "Analysis of ways to enhance the contribution of specific services sectors to the development perspectives of developing countries: Energy services in international trade: development implications", the Commission had before it a secretariat note (TD/B/COM.1/46) and the Report of the Expert Meeting on Energy Services in International Trade: Development Implications (TD/B/COM.1/42 – TD/B/COM.1/EM.16/3), which served as the basis for the policy discussions during the session. It adopted agreed recommendations addressed to Governments, the international community and UNCTAD (TD/B/COM.1/L.22).

5. Under its agenda item 5, "Analysis of market access issues facing developing countries: Consumer interests, competitiveness, competition and development", the Commission had before it the Report of the Expert Meeting on Consumer Interests, Competitiveness, Competition and Development (TD/B/COM.1/43 – TD/B/COM.1/EM.17/4), a note by the UNCTAD secretariat (TD/B/COM.1/47) and comments of the United States and the Philippines on the outcome of the Expert Meeting (TD/B/COM.1/CRP.2 and CRP.3). The Commission held policy discussions on the basis of these documents, with particular emphasis on the outcome of the Expert Meeting, and it adopted agreed recommendations addressed to Governments, the international community and UNCTAD (TD/B/COM.1/L.23).

6. Under its agenda item 6, "Progress report on the implementation of agreed conclusions and recommendations of the Commission", the Commission had before it a progress report in document TD/B/COM.1/48. It took note of the progress report.

7. Under its agenda item 7, " Implications for the work of the Commission following the Doha Ministerial Conference and related capacity-building and technical cooperation activities of UNCTAD", the Commission had before it the plan for "Capacity building and technical cooperation for developing countries, especially LDCs and economies in transition in support of their participation in the WTO Doha Programme" (UNCTAD/RMS/TCS/1). The Commission carried out in-depth discussions on the issues involved and adopted agreed conclusions (TD/B/COM.1/L.24).

(b) Report of the Commission on Investment, Technology and Related Financial Issues, sixth session (21 – 25 January 2002)

8. The sixth session of the Commission on Investment, Technology and Related Financial Issues was held in Geneva from 21 to 25 January 2002. The report of the session is contained in document TD/B/EX(28)/3 – TB/B/COM.2/40.

9. Under its agenda item 3, "Impact of international investment flows on development: The impact of FDI policies on industralization, local entrepreneurship and the development of supply capacity of developing countries, in particular the least developed countries", the Commission engaged in policy dialogues based on the *World Investment Report 2001, Promoting Linkages* (UNCTAD/WIR/2001); the Report of the Expert Meeting on the Impact of FDI Policies (TD/B/COM.2/35 – TD/B/COM.2/EM.10/3); a note by the UNCTAD secretariat on the "Impact of international investment flows on development: the impact of FDI policies on industrialization" (TD/B/COM.2/38); comments made by member States on the outcome of the Expert Meeting on the Impact of FDI Policies on Industrialization, Local Entrepreneurship and the Development of Supply Capacity (TD/B/COM.2/CRP.3); and the Report of the Expert Meeting on Mainstreaming Gender in order to Promote Opportunities (TD/B/COM.3/40 – TD/B/COM.3/EM.14/3). It adopted agreed recommendations addressed to Governments, the international community and UNCTAD (TD/B/COM.2/L.15).

10. Under its agenda item 4, "International policy issues: International arrangements for transfer of technology: Best practices for access to and measures to encourage transfer of technology with a view to capacity building in developing countries, especially in least developed countries", the Commission had before it a secretariat note on "International arrangements for transfer of technology" (TD/B/COM.2/37) and the Report of the Expert Meeting on International Arrangements for Transfer of Technology: Best Practices for Access to and Measures to Encourage Transfer of Technology with a view to Capacity Building in Developing Countries, especially in Least Developed Countries (TD/B/COM.2/33 – TD/B/COM.2/EM.9/3). It adopted agreed recommendations addressed to Governments, the international community and UNCTAD (TD/B/COM.2/L.16).

11. Under its agenda item 5, "Investment policy reviews: exchange of national experience", the Commission considered the investment policy review of the United Republic

of Tanzania (UNCTAD/ITE/IPC/Misc.9) and reviewed the follow-up to the recommendations contained in previously conducted policy reviews. The discussion was summarized by the secretariat in the final report of the Commission.

12. Under agenda item 6, "Reports of the subsidiary bodies of the Commission", the Commission took note of the oral presentation on the eighteenth session of the Intergovernmental Working Group of Experts on International Standards of Accounting and Reporting by its Chairman, and endorsed its report. It also took note of the oral report of the Chairman of the Intergovernmental Group of Experts on Competition Law and Policy on its third session and endorsed its report.

13. Under its agenda item 7, "Progress report on the implementation of agreed conclusions and recommendations of the Commission", the Commission had before it a progress report in document TD/B/COM.2/39. It took note of the progress report.

14. Under agenda item 9, "Implications for the work of the Commission following the Doha Ministerial Meeting", the Commission adopted agreed conclusions (TD/B/COM.2/L.17).

(c) Report of the Commission on Enterprise, Business Facilitation and Development, sixth session (18 – 21 February 2002)

15. The sixth session of the Commission on Enterprise, Business Facilitation and Development was held in Geneva from 18 to 21 February 2002. The report of this session is contained in document TD/B/EX(28)/5 – TB/B/COM.3/46.

16. Under its agenda item 3, "Electronic commerce and international transport services: Best practices for enhancing the competitiveness of developing countries", the Commission had before it the Report of the Expert Meeting on Electronic Commerce and International Transport Services: Best Practices for Enhancing the Competitiveness of Developing Countries, as contained in document TD/B/COM.3/38 – TD/B/COM.3/EM.12/3, and a secretariat note entitled "Electronic commerce and international transport services: Enhancing the competitiveness of developing countries" (TD/B/COM.3/42). It adopted agreed recommendations addressed to Governments, the international community and UNCTAD (TD/B/COM.3/L.20).

17. Under its agenda item 4, "Improving the competitiveness of SMEs in developing countries: Role of finance, including e-finance, to enhance enterprise development", the Commission had before it the report of the related Expert Meeting, as contained in document TD/B/COM.3/39 – TD/B/COM.3/EM.13/3, and a note by the secretariat entitled "Improving SME competitiveness: access to finance and e- finance" (TD/B/COM.3/43). It adopted agreed recommendations addressed to Governments, the international community and UNCTAD (TD/B/COM.3/L.21).

18. Under its agenda item 5, "Mainstreaming gender in order to promote opportunities", the Commission had before it the report of the related Expert Meeting, as contained in

document TD/B/COM.3/40 – TD/B/COM.3/EM.14/3, and a note by the secretariat entitled "Mainstreaming gender to promote opportunities through the increased contribution of women to competitiveness" intended to assist the Commission in its deliberations on this issue (TD/B/COM.3/44). It adopted agreed recommendations addressed to Governments, the international community and UNCTAD (TD/B/COM.3/L.22).

19. Under its agenda item 6, "Progress report on the implementation of agreed conclusions and recommendations of the Commission", the Commission had before it a progress report in document TD/B/COM.3/45. It took note of the progress report.

20. Under its agenda item 7, "Implications for the work of the Commission following the Doha Ministerial Meeting", the Commission adopted agreed conclusions (TD/B/COM.3/L.23)

(d) Report of the Working Party on the Medium-term Plan and the Programme budget on its resumed thirty-eighth session (17-18 January 2002)

21. The report of the Working Party on its first resumed thirty-seventh session is contained in document TD/B/49/2 – TD/B/WP/148.

Item 3 - Follow-up to paragraph 166 of the Bangkok Plan of Action

22. In its agreed conclusions 466 (XLVII) of October 2000, the Board requested the Secretary-General of UNCTAD to report to its forty-eighth session on the implementation of paragraph 166 of the Bangkok Plan of Action. At the forty-eighth session, the secretariat informed the Board that a draft report on the implementation of paragraph 166 had been presented to the Advisory Body and that the report would be finalized for an executive session of the Board in March 2002.

23. At its twenty-eighth session, the Board will have before it a report on "Training Course on Key Issues on the International Economic Agenda pursuant to paragraph 166 of the Bangkok Plan of Action" (TD/B/EX (28)/2).

Item 4 - Institutional, organizational, administrative and related matters:

- ***Designation of non-governmental organizations for the purposes of rule 77 of the rules of procedure of the Board***

24. At present there are 187 non-governmental organizations (NGOs) in status with UNCTAD. A list of these organizations is contained in document TD/B/NGO/LIST/4.

Designation of international NGOs

25. At its twenty-eighth executive session, the Board will be invited to consider two applications from non-governmental organizations. These are: the International Federation of Organic Agriculture Movements (IFOAM), and the International Environmental Law Research Centre (IELC). The background information on these organizations is contained in documents TD/B/EX (28)/R.1 and R.2.

Inclusion of national NGOs in the register in conformity with the Board decision 43 (VII)

26. The Board will be informed that, following consultations with the member States concerned (Democratic Republic of Congo, Spain and India), the Secretary-General of UNCTAD has included PRONAPLUCAN (Programme National de Prévention, de Lutte et d'assistance Humanitaire aux Victimes de Catastrophes Naturelles), Fundación Forum Ambiental (FFA) and the Research and Information System for the Non-Aligned and Other Developing Countries (RIS) in the Register of national non-governmental organizations provided for under Board decision 43 (VII). The background information on these organizations is contained in documents TD/B/EX (28)/L.1, L.2 and L.3

Item 5 - Other business

Item 6 - Report of the Board on its twenty-eighth executive session

27. The Board may wish to authorize the Rapporteur to finalize the report on its twenty-eighth executive session under the authority of the President.